

REMARKS

In the Non-final Office Action mailed on October 3, 2008, claims 1-2 and 4-36 were pending. Claims 21 and 22 have been objected to but indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and claims 24-26 have been allowed. Claims 1-2, 4-20 and 23 stand rejected. In this response, claims 1, 21 and 22 have been amended, claims 45-46 have been added. Reconsideration of the present application as amended and including claims 1-2, 4-36 and 45-46 is respectfully requested.

New claim 45 presents claims 1, 20 and 21 in independent form. New claim 46 presents claims 1, 20 and 22 in independent form. Therefore, claims 45 and 46 are allowable as indicated in the Office Action.

Claims 21 and 22 are amended to remove the dependency of these claims from claim 20 to avoid redundancy with new claims 45 and 46. Entry of the amendments to claims 21 and 22 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10-20 and 23 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2003/0032957 to McKinley, and claims 7-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable in view of McKinley alone. Amended claim 1 recites, among other features, "an interconnection means for coupling the base to the arm, the interconnection means including a cross member extending from the arm through the base allowing the arm to be positionable in a first position that is parallel to a long axis of the base and positionable in a second position that is perpendicular to the long axis of the base...." Support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found, for example, at least in Figs. 1A, 1B, 1E, 1F, 3A-5, and at paragraphs [0041]-[0042], [0045], and [0049].


The Office Action asserts that McKinley discloses shaft 22 of screw 12 is the base and that head portion 18 of screw 12 is the base head. The Office Action further asserts that extending member 54 of coupling element 14 is the arm. McKinley discloses that head portion 18 of screw 12 includes a substantially hemispherical shape. Coupling element 14 includes a cylindrical tubular body that defines an inner passage 34 having an inner wall 36. Inner passage 34 comprises an upper generally cylindrical portion 38 and an inwardly curved lower portion 40, which defines a socket into which head portion 18 is rotatably engaged. Lower portion 40

includes a bottom surface 42 that includes an opening 44 and a passage 46 that are dimensioned to be greater than shaft 22 but less than the largest diameter of head portion 18 to capture head portion 18 in coupling element 14. See paragraph [0031] and [0034]. There is no disclosure of "an interconnection means for coupling the base to the arm, the interconnection means including a cross member extending from the arm through the base allowing the arm to be positionable in a first position that is parallel to a long axis of the base and positionable in a second position that is perpendicular to the long axis of the base" as recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable and withdrawal of the rejection of the same is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4-20 and 23 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are allowable at least for the reasons claim 1 is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims depending from claim 1 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully that claims 1-2, 4-36 and 45-46 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Response to Non-Final Office Action
Application Serial No. 10/825,962
Atty Docket No. MSDI-951/P32399.00
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